

A. Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A stackable riser section comprising;

a single sidewall having a interior surface and having a first end, and a second end, said first end adapted to mate with the second end of another riser and said second end adapted to mate with the first end of another riser;

said first end terminating in an edge;

a plurality of vertical bosses spaced about said interior surface of said sidewall attached to said interior surface to said edge, each terminating in an end flush with said edge of said sidewall.

2. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said riser includes a plurality of vertical ribs attached to said interior surface of said sidewall to said edge, each terminating in an end flush with said edge of said sidewall.

3. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said bosses are connected to said sidewall by offsetting portions attached to said sidewall to said edge of said sidewall.

4. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said single side wall is cylindrical and said edge is a horizontal edge.

5. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said single sidewall is cylindrical and said edge is a horizontal edge.

6. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 3 wherein said single sidewall is cylindrical and said edge is a horizontal edge.

7. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said second end includes at least an outer and another wall defining at least one channel, and said outer wall is shorter than said another wall.

8. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 2 wherein said second end is a channel end and includes at least an outer and another wall defining at least one channel, and said outer wall is shorter than said another wall.
9. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 3 wherein said second end is a channel end and includes at least an outer and another wall defining at least one channel, and said outer wall is shorter than said another wall.
10. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 4 wherein said second end is a channel end and includes at least an outer and another wall defining at least one channel, and said outer wall is shorter than said another wall.
11. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 5 wherein said second end is a channel end and includes at least an outer and another wall defining at least one channel, and said outer wall is shorter than said another wall.
12. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 6 wherein said second end is a channel end and includes at least an outer and another wall defining at least one channel, and said outer wall is shorter than said another wall.
13. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 7 wherein said first end is tapered and configured to be disposed in said at least one channel of said channel end of another riser.
14. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 8 wherein said first end is tapered and configured to be disposed in said at least one channel of said channel end of another riser.
15. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 9 wherein said first end is tapered and configured to be disposed in said at least one channel of said channel end of another riser.

16. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 10 wherein said first end is tapered and configured to be disposed in said at least one channel of said channel end of another riser.
17. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 11 wherein said first end is tapered and configured to be disposed in said at least one channel of said channel end of another riser.
18. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 12 wherein said first end is tapered and configured to be disposed in said at least one channel of said channel end of another riser.
19. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 7 wherein said channel end another wall is a middle wall, and said channel end further includes an inner wall, said inner wall and said middle wall defining a second channel adapted to receive the bosses of another riser.
20. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 19 wherein said middle wall defines a plurality of slots sized to receive the bosses of another riser.
21. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 8 wherein said channel end another wall is a middle wall and said middle wall and said channel end further includes an inner wall, said inner wall and said middle wall defining a second channel adapted to receive the bosses and ribs of another riser.
22. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 21 wherein said middle wall defines a plurality of slots sized to receive the bosses of another riser and slots sized to receive the ribs of the other riser.
23. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 9 wherein said channel end other wall is a middle wall, and said channel end further includes an inner wall, said inner wall and said middle wall defining a second channel adapted to receive the bosses and ribs of another riser.

24. (Original) A stackable riser as claimed in claim 23 wherein said middle wall defines a plurality of slots sized to receive said offsetting portions of the bosses of another riser and slots sized to receive the ribs of another riser.

25. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections each having a single sidewall defining an inner surface, said sidewall having a first end and a channel end, and a plurality of vertical bosses extending along the inner surface of the sidewall at said first end;

said channel end includes walls defining a boss receiving channel;

said vertical bosses of the riser section adjacent said channel end of one riser section received in said boss receiving channel of said riser section.

26. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 25 wherein projections are spaced about said boss receiving channel of each riser section, with the bosses of the riser section adjacent said channel end of one riser section aligned with the projections in said boss receiving channel of said riser section, with said bosses abutting said projections.

27. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 26 wherein said boss receiving channel is defined by a wall having slots spaced about said wall, and said slots are sized to permit said channel end to receive the bosses of said riser section adjacent said channel end.

28. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 25 wherein each said riser includes vertically extending ribs extending along the inner surface of the side wall at said first end, said ribs of said riser section adjacent said channel end of a riser section received in said boss receiving channel,.

29. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 28 wherein

projections are spaced about said boss receiving channel of each riser section, with the bosses and ribs of the riser section adjacent said channel end of one riser section aligned with the projections in said boss receiving channel of said riser section, with said bosses and ribs abutting said projections.

30. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 29 wherein said boss receiving channel is defined by a wall having slots spaced about said wall, and said slots are sized to permit said channel end to receive the bosses of said riser section adjacent said channel end.

31. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 27 wherein said channel end is generally cylindrical and said slots are sized to prevent rotation of said cover relative to a riser section.

32. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 30 wherein said channel end is generally cylindrical and said slots are sized to prevent rotation of said cover relative to a riser section.

33. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 25 wherein said first end is tapered;  
said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

34. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 26 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of a riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

35. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 27 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

36. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 28 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

37. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 29 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

38. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 30 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

39. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 31 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

40. (Original) A combination of stacked access riser sections as claimed in Claim 32 wherein said first end is tapered;

said channel end defines an end receiving channel shaped to receive a tapered end of an adjacent riser section, and said first end of said riser section adjacent said channel end is disposed in said end receiving channel.

41. (Original) A combination of stackable riser sections comprising:

at least two stacked riser sections, each including a sidewall defining an essentially smooth outer surface;

an upper end of said sidewall configured to mate with a lower end of the sidewall of another riser section;

a lower end of said sidewall configured to mate with the upper end of another riser section, wherein said essentially smooth outer surface of said sidewall of the lowermost riser section includes a removable anchor tab extending therefrom.

42. (Original) A combination of stackable riser sections as claimed in Claim 41 wherein each

said riser section is generally cylindrical and said anchor tab of said lowermost riser section extends horizontally outward from said sidewall.

43. (New) A riser section and cover combination, comprising:

a riser section including a sidewall defining an access passage open at the top and bottom;

a cover disposed upon said riser section and closing said passage at the top; and

a fastener extending through said sidewall and said cover to secure said cover to said riser section.

44. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 43, wherein said sidewall has an upper end, said cover has a channel end which includes walls defining at least one channel adapted to receive the upper end of said sidewall.

45. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 44, wherein said fastener extends through at least one of said walls.

46. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 44, wherein at least one protrusion depends from one of said walls, said fastener extending through said protrusion.

47. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 43, wherein said sidewall includes a web, said fastener extending through said web.

48. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 46, wherein said sidewall includes a web, said cover further disposed upon said riser section with said protrusion aligned with said web, said fastener extending through said web and said protrusion.

49. (New) A combination of stackable riser sections and a cover, comprising:

a plurality of stacked riser sections, each riser section in said plurality of riser sections including a sidewall, said plurality of stacked riser sections defining a passage open at the top and bottom;

a cover disposed upon the top riser section in said plurality of stacked riser sections and closing



said passage at the top; and

a fastener extending through said sidewall of said top riser section and said cover to secure said cover to said top riser section.

50. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 49, wherein said sidewall of said top riser section has an upper end, said cover has a channel end which includes walls defining at least one channel adapted to receive the upper end of said sidewall of said top riser section.

51. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 50, wherein said fastener extends through at least one of said walls.

52. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 50, wherein at least one protrusion depends from one of said walls, said fastener extending through said protrusion.

53. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 49, wherein said sidewall of said top riser section includes a web, said fastener extending through said web.

54. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 52, wherein said sidewall of said top riser section includes a web, said cover further disposed upon said top riser section with said protrusion aligned with said web, said fastener extending through said web and said protrusion.